



**2002 REPORT TO CONGRESS
ON APPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERSHIP
ON THE
REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS**

***PURSUANT TO SECTION 302(b)(2)(B) OF THE
MAGNUSON-STEVENSON FISHERY CONSERVATION
AND MANAGEMENT ACT***

**PREPARED BY
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
FISHERIES
JANUARY 2003**

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A. BACKGROUND

Section 302(b)(2)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) requires the Secretary (Secretary) to report annually to Congress on the achievement, to the extent practicable, of a “fair and balanced apportionment,” on a rotating or other basis, of the active participants (or their representatives) in the commercial and recreational fisheries under the jurisdiction of each Regional Fishery Management Council (RFMC). This is the eleventh Report related to the status of such apportionments. ^{1/} In addition to assessing the annual apportionment of RFMC memberships, this Report discusses significant fishery management issues and related actions either under development or pending in the future.

B. FAIR AND BALANCED RFMC MEMBERSHIP

The consideration of balance and fairness between commercial and recreational fishing sectors has always been an important element in the Secretary’s appointments. An equally important consideration however, is the stewardship responsibilities of RFMCs and the appointment of individuals who can work collectively with members to achieve the conservation standards under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Successful nominees, therefore, are those who not only are qualified in accordance with the provisions located at 50 CFR 600.215, but will also best contribute to the stewardship of marine fishery resources.^{2/}

Generally, the most qualified nominees are those whose records indicate that they--

1. Have achieved a level of leadership in promoting stewardship of the marine fishery resources under the jurisdiction of the RFMCs to which they would be appointed; and
2. Participate in, or represent commercial fishermen participating in one or more commercial fisheries under the RFMCs’ jurisdictions; or
3. Participate in, or represent recreational fishermen participating in one or more recreational fisheries under the RFMCs’ jurisdictions; or
4. Are otherwise experienced in and/or knowledgeable in leadership of organizations whose members participate in a fishery; management and conservation of natural resources; representatives of consumers; teachers; journalists; writers; consultants; lawyers; or researchers.

Standard for Apportionment

Before evaluating each RFMC with respect to fairness and balance, the Secretary must first have a standard for such judgments. Although clear as to intent, the amendments to the Sustainable Fisheries Act and their legislative history did not provide specific guidance for judging whether the Secretary’s appointments result in “fair and balanced memberships.” National Oceanic

^{1/} The initial report assessed the RFMC memberships in 1991 and 1992 and was submitted to Congress on September 1, 1992.

^{2/} The qualifications for appointment are derived from Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and are also included in regulations contained at 50 CFR 600.215.

and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries has addressed the requirement by reasoning that, in the ideal case, voting members should be individuals with prescribed qualifications related to commercial or to recreational fishing within the RFMC's area of jurisdiction, or individuals with qualifications in one of the "other" related fishing interest categories, who are personally committed to meet the RFMC's trusteeship responsibilities for the living marine resources. This continues to be the yardstick for judging whether an individual RFMC will fulfill its paramount mandate, the conservation of fisheries resources.

Over the past decade, fishery management issues have become increasingly complex; therefore, RFMC members who possess the necessary background and abilities to address current issues are critical to the ultimate success of the RFMCs. A significant consideration in the appointment of members is their specific knowledge and experience of the management issues and fisheries in which each RFMC is expected to be involved. Also important is the level of nominees' participation in the fishery management process, and the support for the nominees by fishing sector and other individuals, largely through endorsement letters to the Secretary.

For the purposes of this Report, three general fishing interest sectors are discussed: the commercial fishing sector, the recreational fishing sector, and an "other" sector. The "other" sector is made up of appointed members with knowledge of, and experience in, biological, economic, or social sciences; environmental or ecological matters; consumer affairs; and associated fields.

Nominees may be categorized as participants in more than one of the three general fishing interest sectors. In these cases, the Agency's determination about a nominee's primary interest sector is the result of the Agency's interpretation of: (1) supporting background information provided by the affected governor, (2) background information provided by the nominee, reflecting the nominee's demonstrated principal participation, and (3) other supplemental information provided by reliable sources.

C. APPORTIONMENT OF RFMC MEMBERSHIP

RFMC members are appointed from among qualified individuals nominated by the governors of the RFMCs' constituent states and, in the case of tribal representation on the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), from among Indian representatives nominated by the appropriate Tribal Governments. A controlling factor in meeting the requirement to balance membership will be cooperation of the governors of the constituent states in nominating qualified individuals who meet the standard of membership. It is incumbent on the governors to provide the Secretary with a wide diversity of highly qualified nominees to meet the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

On June 17, 2002, the Secretary of Commerce announced the regular appointment or reappointment of 20 of 22 obligatory and at-large RFMC members whose 3-year terms, having commenced on August 11, 2002, will expire on August 10, 2005. Because of late submissions of gubernatorial nominations by the governors of Pennsylvania on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery

Management Council (MAFMC) and Puerto Rico on the Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC), the Secretary announced the reappointment of Edward J. Mesunas on August 8, 2002, to the MAFMC, and the appointment of Eugenio E. Piñeiro on September 18, 2002, to the CFMC. In addition, on June 17, 2002, the Secretary announced the appointment of David W. Ortmann to Idaho's obligatory seat on the PFMC that expired on August 10, 2001. Dana B. Rice was appointed to an out-of-cycle vacancy on the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) on June 23, 2002, to complete William J. Brennan's term, who resigned June 2002. Also, Bennie H. Ellis was appointed to an out-of-cycle vacancy whose term began January 2003 on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) to complete Robert C. Penney's term, who resigned October 2002. Messrs. Rice and Ellis' terms will expire on August 10, 2003. In addition, Pete V. Aparicio, whose term was to expire on August 10, 2002, resigned from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC) on July 1, 2002. Joseph P. Hendrix, Jr. was appointed during the 2002 appointment process to Mr. Aparicio's seat. Pending at this time is the appointment of a member to Georgia's obligatory seat on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC), which became vacant on August 1, 2002, due to the resignation of Glenn H. Durden.

Of the 22 members appointed, whose 3-year term will expire on August 10, 2005, 11 are from the commercial fishing sector; 9 are from the recreational fishing sector; and 2 are from the "other" interest sector.

The distribution of appointed RFMC voting members by interest sector during 2000, 2001, and 2002 are shown in Table 1 (page 7). In 2002, 46 percent of the appointed members were from the commercial fishing sector (33 members), 35 percent were from the recreational sector (25 members), and 19 percent were from the "other" sector (13 members).

The commercial fishing sector continues to be the largest component of RFMC representation because of the large numbers from that sector on the NEFMC and NPFMC, where the commercial fishing dominates the fisheries. With the resignation of a member on the NEFMC from the "other" sector, a commercial fishing sector representative was appointed to fill the unexpired term, causing the total commercial representation to rise to 33.

Recreational fishing sector representation has remained about the same in recent years, 26 members in 2000, 27 members in 2001, and currently 25 members represent the recreational fishing sector in 2002.

Overall, representation between the commercial and recreational fishing sector is generally in balance on most Councils. Except for the NEFMC and NPFMC whose membership is purposefully not in balance because of regulatory issues to be addressed, only the GMFMC has a significant difference between the sectors (seven recreational and three commercial in 2002).

Because of the limited number of RFMC seats, not all sectors and localities can be represented on each RFMC. In addition, the Secretary's appointments are constrained by the nominations submitted by the RFMC governors. Within these parameters, the Secretary endeavors to select appointees who possess the breadth of knowledge and experience to collectively provide a

balance on each RFMC, and who pursue their RFMC roles as stewards and trustees of the living or, when warranted, retaining the benefits of members' backgrounds and experiences with marine resources, rather than self-interests. To the extent practicable, the appointments also seek to rotate membership, thereby distributing participation among all sectors of the fisheries specific actions. Adjustments to the distribution of representation on each RFMC also are made, where possible, to achieve a balance of interest sectors or needed experience to address changing agendas.

Where sector or gear components are not represented on a RFMC, membership on the various RFMC advisory panels and committees also is crucial to providing those sectors with representation during RFMC deliberations, as well as with a "voice" on specific issues of interest.

Women and Minority Representation

Prior to the 2002 appointments, the total number of appointed female members on the RFMCs was ten. As a result of the 2002 appointments, the RFMC gained one new female member bringing the total number of female members on the RFMCs to eleven. Hazel C. Nelson replaced Harold R. Samuelsen, Jr., on the NPFMC, who could not be renominated to a fourth consecutive term due to Magnuson-Stevens Act term limitations. The RFMC governors will continue to be encouraged to nominate qualified female and minority candidates.

D. RFMC MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES DURING 2003

Table 2, page 8, lists the 30 RFMC members plus one vacant seat whose terms will expire on August 10, 2003. Table 3, page 9, sorts the 30 members plus one vacant seat into the three general fishing sector categories.

The Magnuson-Stevens Act prohibits the reappointment of RFMC members to a fourth consecutive term. As a result, six of the 30 members plus one vacant seat whose terms expire in 2003 will be ineligible for renomination consideration. The members are Ms. Barbara D. Stevenson on the NEFMC, Maine's obligatory seat; Mr. Gary A. Caputi on the MAFMC, New Jersey's obligatory seat; Mr. Obadiah F. Love, Jr., on the SAFMC, at-large seat/GA; Mr. Miguel A. Sanabria on the CFMC, at-large seat/PR; Mr. James G. Caito on the PFMC, California's obligatory seat; and Mr. David L. Fluharty on the NPFMC, Washington's obligatory seat.

**TABLE 1: APPOINTED RFMC MEMBERS SORTED NUMERICALLY
BY FISHING SECTOR INTERESTS (2000-2002)**

		COMMERCIAL	RECREATIONAL	OTHER	TOTALS
NEFMC	2000	8	2	2	12
	2001	8	2	2	12
	2002	9 ^{3/}	2	1	12
MAFMC	2000	5	5	3	13
	2001	6	5	2	13
	2002	6	5	2	13
SAFMC	2000	3	4	1	8
	2001	3	4	1	8
	2002	3	3 ^{4/}	1	7
CFMC	2000	1	1	2	4
	2001	1	1	2	4
	2002	2	1	1	4
GMFMC	2000	4	7	0	11
	2001	3	7	1	11
	2002	3	7	1	11
PFMC	2000	3	3	3	9
	2001	3	3	2 ^{5/}	8
	2002	3	3	3 ^{6/}	9
NPFMC	2000	4	1	2	7
	2001	4	1	2	7
	2002	4	1 ^{7/}	2	7
WPFMC	2000	4	3	1	8
	2001	3	4	1	8
	2002	3	3	2	8
ALL RFMCs	2000	32	26	14	72
	2001	31	27	13	71 (see footnote 5)
	2002	33	25	13	71 (see footnote 4)

^{3/}William J. Brennan, a resident of Maine, resigned effective June 2002. With the appointment of Mr. Rice, the total number of members on the NEFMC representing the commercial fishing sector increased by one, and the total number of members on the NEFMC representing the “other” sector decreased by one.

^{4/}Due to the resignation of Glen H. Durden who was completing a term due to expire on August 10, 2003, the appointment of a member to Georgia’s obligatory seat is still pending.

^{5/}This total also reflects a vacancy on the Pacific Council due to the expiration of a term on August 10, 2001 to Idaho’s obligatory seat. This total includes the Tribal representative, who for the purposes of this table, is counted as a representative of the “other” sector.

^{6/}This total includes the June 17, 2002, appointment of David Ortmann to Idaho’s obligatory seat that expired on August 10, 2001, and the Tribal representative, who for the purposes of this table, is counted as a representative of the “other” sector.

^{7/}Robert C. Penney resigned effective October 2002. With the appointment of Mr. Ellis, the total number of members on the NPFMC representing the recreational fishing sector remains the same.

TABLE 2: RFMC MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 10, 2003

<u>OBLIGATORY MEMBERS</u>	<u>APPT. DATE</u>	<u>CONSEC. TERMS SERVED</u>	<u>AT-LARGE MEMBERS</u>	<u>APPT. DATE</u>	<u>CONSEC. TERMS SERVED</u>
New England RI: F. Blount Jr. (R) CT: D. Hopkins (O) MA: J. Kendall (C) ME: B. Stevenson (C)	1997 1997 1997 1994	2 2 2 3***	D. Rice, Sr./ME (C)	2002	*
Mid-Atlantic NJ: G. Caputi (R) VA: R. Pride, III (R)	1994 2000	3*** 1	L. Nolan/NY (C) D. Spitsbergen/NC (O)	2000 2000	1 1
South Atlantic GA: VACANT () FL: A. Iarocci (C)	2000 2000	**** 1	C. Lee/NC (R) O. Love, Jr./GA (C)	2000 1994	1 3***
Caribbean VI: V. Brown (O)	2000	1	M. Sanabria/PR (R)	1994	3***
Gulf of Mexico FL: K. Bell (C) AL: D. Dumont (R) LA: M. Fischer (R)	2000 2000 1997	1 1 2	B. Walker/AL (R) H. Williams/MS (C)	2000 1997	1 2
Pacific CA: J. Caito (C) (Tribal Rep.) WA: J. Harp (O) OR: H. Radtke (O)	1994 1997 1997	3*** 2 2	R. Alverson/WA (C) D. Hansen/CA (R)	1997 2000	2 1
No. Pacific AK: D. Benton (O) WA: D. Fluharty (O) AK: B. Ellis (R)	2000 1994 2003	1 **; 3*** *	There are no at-large seats on the North Pacific Council		
W. Pacific GU: J. Guthertz (O) HI: B. HO (C) AmS: A. Sunia (R)	1995 2000 1997	*;2 1 2	There are no 2003 at-large seats on the Western Pacific Council		
Total: 21			Total: 10		

Fishing Sectors: C=commercial; R=recreational; "O"=other

*These members replaced other members who left office during a term or who are deceased; in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, section 302(b)(3), Any term in which an individual was appointed to replace a member who left office during the term shall not be counted in determining the number of consecutive terms served by that Council member.

**This member served a partial term during his initial 3-year appt., in accordance with 50 CFR 600.210(a), A voting member's Council service of 18 months or more during a term of office will be counted as service for the entire 3-year term.

***These members were appointed after January 1, 1986 and have served three consecutive terms; therefore, they are ineligible by law for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term.

****Due to the resignation of Glen H. Durden who was completing a term due to expire on August 10, 2003, the appointment of a member to Georgia's obligatory seat is vacant.

TABLE 3: OUTGOING 2003 RFMC MEMBERS GROUPED BY GENERAL FISHING SECTOR CATEGORIES				
	<u>C=COMMERCIAL</u>	<u>R=RECREATIONAL</u>	<u>“O”=OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>New England</u>	<u>James M. Kendall</u> <u>Dana Rice, Sr.</u> <u>Barbara D. Stevenson</u>	<u>Francis W. Blount, Jr.</u>	<u>D. Douglas Hopkins</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Mid-Atlantic</u>	<u>Laurie A. Nolan</u>	<u>Gary A. Caputi</u> <u>Robert H. Pride, III</u>	<u>Dennis L. Spitsbergen</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>South Atlantic</u>	<u>Anthony L. Iarocci</u> <u>Obadiah F. Love, Jr.</u>	<u>Clarence W. Lee</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>3 + 1 vacancy</u>
<u>Caribbean</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Miguel A. Sanabria</u>	<u>Virdin C. Brown</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Gulf of Mexico</u>	<u>Karen L. J. Bell</u> <u>Harolyn Kay Williams</u>	<u>Dan Dumont</u> <u>Myron J. Fischer</u> <u>Bobbi M. Walker</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Pacific</u>	<u>Robert D. Alverson</u> <u>James G. Caito</u>	<u>Donald D. Hansen</u>	<u>James E. Harp (Tribal)</u> <u>Hans D. Radtke</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>No. Pacific</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Ben Ellis</u>	<u>David Benton</u> <u>David L. Fluharty</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>W. Pacific</u>	<u>Bryan Y.Y. Ho</u>	<u>Aitofele T. Sunia</u>	<u>Judith P. Guthertz</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>_____</u> <u>Total</u> <u>_____</u> <u>11</u>	<u>_____</u> <u>Total</u> <u>_____</u> <u>11</u>	<u>_____</u> <u>Total</u> <u>_____</u> <u>8</u>	<u>30+ 1 vacany</u>

Removal of Members

There are occasions, after the appointments have been made, when RFMC constituents have advised the Secretary of concerns about, or indicated disagreement with, some of the Secretarial appointment decisions. In some cases, constituents have called for the revocation of particular appointments. All such concerns are noted. However, in accordance with Section 302(b)(6) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the removal of a council member is limited to the following circumstances:

a) the Secretary may remove for cause any Secretarially appointed RFMC member only when the RFMC concerned first recommends removal of that member by not less than two-thirds of the RFMC voting members, and the RFMC submits such removal recommendation to the Secretary in writing, together with a statement of the basis for the recommendation; or

b) after notice and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with Section 554 of Title 5, United States Code, the member is found by the Secretary to have committed an act prohibited by Section 307(1)(O) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, which pertains to compliance with financial disclosure requirements.

E. THE SECRETARY'S 2002 APPOINTMENTS/2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the annual appointments announced on June 17, 2002, 21 of 22 members were seated on August 11, 2002. Eugenio E. Piñeiro, the 22nd member who was appointed to the CFMC, was seated on September 18, 2002.

An overall perspective of fishing sector composition on each of the RFMCs for the past three years in on page 7, Table 1.

The following sections update RFMC appointment rosters; specify apportionment totals for commercial and recreational fishing sector representatives; discuss fishery management issues and challenges being addressed by each RFMC, and Secretarial recommendations for future nomination and appointment considerations, which reflect information included in letters sent to the constituent state governors requesting nominees, consistent with regulations at 50 CFR 600.215. The governors are required to submit their nominees by March 15, 2003.

1. New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2002 for four NEFMC members. In addition, former at-large member William J. Brennan, who was completing a term due to expire on August 10, 2003, resigned in June 2002. As a result of the 2002 appointments, and the out-of-cycle appointment, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the NEFMC is nine commercial, two recreational and one “other,” which reflects a change from eight commercial, two recreational and two “other.” The geographical balances with regard to the distribution of at-large seats on the NEFMC remains unchanged. The appointees and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Anthony Fernandes III/commercial
Thomas R. Hill/recreational
John W. Pappalardo/commercial
Dana B. Rice/commercial

John C. Williamson/commercial

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment
Reappointment
Vito J. Calomo/commercial
William J. Brennan/ “other”
(resigned June 2002)
Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the NEFMC:

COUNCIL: NEW ENGLAND FMC				
2002				
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (12)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	ANDERSON, ERIK S.	NH	2004	C
O	BLOUNT, FRANCIS W. JR.	RI	2003	R
O	HOPKINS, D. DOUGLAS	CT	2003	O
O	KENDALL, JAMES M.	MA	2003	C
O	STEVENSON, BARBARA D.	ME	2003	C
A	AMORELLO, MARK E.	MA	2004	C
A	BORAGINE, RALPH P.	RI	2004	C
A	FERNANDES, ANTHONY III	NH	2005	C
A	HILL, THOMAS R.	MA	2005	R
A	PAPPALARDO, JOHN W.	MA	2005	C
A	RICE, DANA B. SR.	ME	2003	C
A	WILLIAMSON, JOHN C.	ME	2005	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2003:

1. Francis W. Blount, Jr. - recreational fishing sector - Rhode Island's obligatory seat
2. D. Douglas Hopkins - "other" sector - Connecticut's obligatory seat
3. James M. Kendall - commercial fishing sector - Massachusetts obligatory seat
4. Dana B. Rice, Sr. - commercial fishing sector - at-large seat (Maine)
5. Barbara D. Stevenson - commercial fishing sector - Maine's obligatory seat; by law, Ms. Stevenson, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATION (s):

As in the past, the majority of issues to be dealt with by the NEFMC over the next several years will be related to the commercial fisheries, particularly groundfish. Other significant issues that the Council intends to work on are in the scallop, herring, skate, monkfish, hagfish and whiting fisheries; additional habitat and bycatch issues in all of the fisheries will also need to be addressed. Of the seven members whose terms do not expire in 2003, five are from the commercial harvesting sector and two are involved in commercial seafood marketing and recreational fishing. The members from the commercial harvesting sector have a wealth of experience in the groundfish, scallop, lobster, tuna, northern shrimp and striped bass fisheries, utilizing trawl, gillnet, hand, hook-and-line, and pot gear.

To meet the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and for the Council to deal effectively with the wide range of conservation, economic, social and community issues that will come before it, the constituent state Governors should be encouraged to provide a broad spectrum of candidates to the Secretary that will act as strong stewards of the region's living marine resources. The five upcoming vacancies include three from the commercial sector, one from the recreational sector and one from the "other" sector. Although nominees may include commercial fishermen, particularly from the scallop dredge fishery, a significant number of the nominees should be from the recreational, conservation, academic, or other appropriate sectors in consideration of the large number of commercial sector members remaining on the Council and the broad range of issues that the Council needs to consider.

DISCUSSION:

The NEFMC is responsible for five existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) (Northeast multispecies, Atlantic sea scallop, Atlantic herring, deep-sea red crab and Atlantic salmon). In

addition, the NEFMC and MAFMC are jointly responsible for two FMPs (spiny dogfish and monkfish). The NEFMC has the lead responsibility for the monkfish FMP, while the MAFMC has the lead responsibility for dogfish.

With the exception of Atlantic salmon, these fisheries are primarily commercial; however, the multispecies fishery has an important recreational component. The salmon fishery is considered recreational, though possession of Atlantic salmon is prohibited in the Exclusive Economic Zone. Management of all of the fisheries must take into consideration effects of the fisheries on habitat, and must consider ways to minimize bycatch.

Council priorities for 2003 include completion of Amendment 13 to the Northeast multispecies fishery, which will bring that FMP into full conformance with all applicable laws and provide for rebuilding of all overfished stocks; Amendment 10 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP, which will provide a rotational harvest strategy for closed areas, address habitat issues, and make other broad changes in the management regime; completion of the new Skate FMP, which will bring skates under management; completion of Amendment 2 to the Monkfish FMP, which will address habitat and bycatch issues in that fishery; completion of an omnibus amendment to address habitat impacts of the Atlantic salmon and Atlantic herring fisheries; and development of limited access measures for the Atlantic herring fishery.

In 2002, the Council's management actions included:

Northeast Multispecies

The Council continued the development of Amendment 13 to rebuild overfished stocks, to address habitat impacts of the fishery, and to bring the FMP into full conformance with all applicable laws. The Council also developed Framework Adjustment 37 to the FMP, which is intended to implement revised measures for year 4 of the management program for whiting to reflect the improved condition of the whiting stocks.

Atlantic Sea Scallops

The Council submitted Framework Adjustment 15, which, if approved, would keep days-at-sea allocations at current levels, and extend access and modify scallop fishing in the Hudson Canyon and Virginia Beach Access Areas. The Council continued development of Amendment 10 to use rotational area openings and closures to manage scallops, to address habitat impacts of the fishery, and to make other changes in the management regime for scallops.

Atlantic Sea Herring

The Council approved and submitted annual specifications for 2003 to NOAA Fisheries for review and approval.

Monkfish

The Council submitted Framework Adjustment 1 to the FMP, which was intended to revise the management measures for the 2002 fishery, based on improved conditions of the stock. Because of an inconsistency between the overfishing definition in the FMP and the best scientific information available at the time Framework 1 was submitted, NOAA Fisheries implemented the measures through Secretarial emergency action.

Deep-sea Red Crab

The Council submitted an FMP for the Atlantic deep-sea red crab fishery, which was approved and implemented by NOAA Fisheries. The FMP provides management measures and reporting and recordkeeping requirements for this previously unregulated fishery.

Habitat

The Council developed habitat alternatives for consideration in Northeast multispecies Amendment 13, which consider impacts of the fishery on habitat and protect important groundfish habitat. The Council also developed habitat protection alternatives for the scallop fishery in Amendment 10 to the scallop FMP, for the monkfish fishery in Amendment 2 to the monkfish FMP, and for the Atlantic salmon and Atlantic herring fisheries for inclusion in an omnibus amendment that would amend both of those FMPs.

Skates

The Council continued development of the Skate FMP and is expected to submit the FMP for Secretarial approval early in 2003.

2. Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2002 for five MAFMC members. The composition of fishing sector representatives on the MAFMC remains unchanged at six commercial, five recreational and two "other." The appointments changed the geographical balance regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the MAFMC. An at-large seat formerly held by Robert J. Rhodes of New Jersey is now held by Charles A. Witek, III of New York. The appointees and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Patrick H. Augustine/recreational

James A. Ruhle, Sr./commercial

Ricks E. Savage, Sr./commercial

Edward J. Mesunas/recreational

Charles A. Witek, III/recreational

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Anthony D. DiLernia/recreational
(ineligible, by law, for renomination to a fourth consecutive term)

Reappointment

Reappointment

Reappointment

Robert J. Rhodes/recreational

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the MAFMC:

COUNCIL: MID-ATLANTIC FMC			2002	
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (13)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	AUGUSTINE, PATRICK H.	NY	2005	R
O	CAPUTI, GARY A.	NJ	2003	R
O	MESUNAS, EDWARD J.	PA	2005	R
O	PRIDE, ROBERT H. III	VA	2003	R
O	RUHLE, JAMES A. SR.	NC	2005	C
O	SAVAGE, RICKS E	MD	2005	C
O	SMITH, RONAL W.	DE	2004	O
A	LOVGREN, JAMES R.	NJ	2004	C
A	NOLAN, LAURIE A.	NY	2003	C
A	PEABODY, YVONNE M.	VA	2004	C
A	SIMNS, LAWRENCE W.	MD	2004	C
A	SPITSBERGEN, DENNIS L.	NC	2003	O
A	WITEK, CHARLES A. III	NY	2005	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2003:

1. Gary A. Caputi - recreational fishing sector - New Jersey's obligatory seat; by law Mr. Caputi, who is completing his third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.
2. Robert H. Pride, III - recreational fishing sector - Virginia's obligatory seat
3. Laurie A. Nolan - commercial fishing sector - at-large seat (New York)
4. Dennis L. Spitsbergen - "other" sector - at-large seat (North Carolina)

2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

Nine members of the MAFMC will continue to serve beyond 2003. Five of those members are from the commercial sector, three from the recreational sector and one from the "other" sector. All of the commercial sector members are harvesters and, among them, have experience in the groundfish, squid, tuna, monkfish, mackerel, scallop, surf clam and lobster fisheries, and the use of trawl, dredge, pot, and gillnet gear.

The issues to be dealt with by the MAFMC over the next several years will be related both to the commercial and recreational fisheries. Significant issues that the Council intends to work on are in the summer flounder/scup/black sea bass, mackerel/squid/butterfish, spiny dogfish, and surf clam/ocean quahog fisheries; habitat and bycatch issues associated with several of the fisheries will also need to be addressed.

To meet the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and for the Council to deal effectively with the wide range of conservation, economic, social and community issues that will come before it, the constituent state Governors should be encouraged to provide a broad spectrum of candidates to the Secretary that will act as strong stewards of the region's living marine resources. A significant number of nominees should be from the recreational, conservation, academic, or other appropriate sectors in consideration of the broad range of issues that the Council needs to consider and so that the Secretary can achieve a balance between the recreational and commercial sectors.

DISCUSSION:

THE MAFMC is responsible for five existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) (summer flounder, scup and black sea bass; Atlantic mackerel, squid and butterfish; surf clam and ocean quahog; tilefish; and bluefish). In addition, the MAFMC and NEFMC are jointly responsible for two other FMPs (spiny dogfish and monkfish.) The MAFMC has the lead responsibility for the spiny dogfish FMP, and the NEFMC has the lead responsibility for monkfish.

Some of these fisheries are primarily commercial (e.g., surfclam, ocean quahog, tilefish, spiny dogfish, squid, butterfish); others have significant recreational components (bluefish, summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, Atlantic mackerel). Management of all of the fisheries must take into consideration effects of the fisheries on habitat, and must consider ways to minimize bycatch.

Council priorities for 2003 include development of Framework Adjustment 3 and Amendment 9 to the mackerel/squid/butterfish FMP, which will address habitat and fishery access issues; Amendment 13 to the surfclam/ocean quahog FMP, which will revise overfishing definitions and address impacts of the fishery on habitat; development of Amendment 1 to the spiny dogfish FMP, which will consider alternative rebuilding programs for that species; and development of annual specifications for the summer flounder/scup/black sea bass, mackerel/squid/butterfish, bluefish, and surfclam/ocean quahog fisheries, including research set-asides, as warranted. The Council may, in conjunction with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, address changes to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP regarding biological reference points for summer flounder and consider allocation inequities and impediments inherent in the FMP.

In 2002, the Council's management actions included:

Summer Flounder/Scup/Black Sea Bass

In addition to developing annual specifications and recreational measures for these fisheries, the Council developed and submitted Amendment 13 to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP to remedy disapproved essential fish habitat (EFH) measures and to address changes to current management measures and practices in the commercial sector of the black sea bass fishery.

Surfclams/Ocean Quahogs

In addition to developing annual specifications for these fisheries, the Council continued development of Amendment 13 to the surfclam/ocean quahog FMP, which would revise the overfishing definition for surfclams, remedy the disapproved EFH measures for surfclam and ocean quahogs, implement a vessel tracking system, establish a multi-year quota system, and revise surfclam minimum size limits.

Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish

In addition to developing annual specifications for these fisheries, the Council continued the development of two other actions. Amendment 9 to the FMP would extend the current moratorium on entry in the *Illex* fishery, allow prior year regulations to apply in the new fishing year if such regulations are not finalized, modify the control rule and quota setting procedure for *Loligo*, and make other modifications to the management of these fisheries. Framework Adjustment 3 was also initiated, to take short-term action to extend the *Illex* moratorium while Amendment 9 is completed.

Spiny Dogfish

In addition to development of the annual specifications for this fishery, the Council began development of Amendment 1 to the Spiny Dogfish FMP to revise the spawning stock biomass rebuilding target.

3. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2002 for two SAFMC members. In addition, former obligatory member Glenn H. Durden, who was completing a term due to expire on August 10, 2003, resigned August 1, 2002, creating an out-of-cycle vacancy. At this writing, Georgia's obligatory seat will remain vacant until a slate of gubernatorial nominations have been submitted by the Governor, he and his nominees complete all nomination requirements, and the Secretary has had an opportunity to make the appointment.

As a result of the 2002 appointments, and the out-of-cycle vacancy, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the SAFMC is three commercial, three recreational, one "other," plus one vacancy. The geographical balance regarding at-large vacancies occurring in 2002 remained unchanged. The appointee and the reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

John M. Dean/ "other"
George J. Geiger/recreational
Vacant

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment
Edward B. LeMaster, III/recreational
Glenn H. Durden (resigned August 1, 2002)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the SAFMC:

COUNCIL: SOUTH ATLANTIC FMC			2002	
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (8)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	VACANT	GA	2003	
O	IAROCCHI, ANTHONY L.	FL	2003	C
O	PEARCE, HENRY E. JR.	SC	2004	R
O	SOUTHERLAND, ROBERT L.	NC	2004	C
A	DEAN, JOHN M.	SC	2005	O
A	GEIGER, GEORGE J.	FL	2005	R
A	LEE, CLARENCE W.	NC	2003	R
A	LOVE, OBADIAH F. JR.	GA	2003	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2003:

1. Vacant - sector - Georgia's obligatory seat

2. Anthony L. Iarocci - commercial fishing sector - Florida's obligatory seat
3. Clarence W. Lee - recreational fishing sector - at-large seat (North Carolina)
4. Obadiah F. Love, Jr. - commercial fishing sector - at-large seat (Georgia); by law Mr. Love who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

Of the members whose terms do not expire in 2003, one is from the commercial sector, two from the recreational sector, and one from the "other" sector (academic) . These members have experience in the commercial red drum, snapper-grouper, shrimp and crab fisheries and most major recreational fisheries. Gear used in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) includes hook-and-line, longline, and rod and reel. Also, trawling for shrimp and potting for spiny lobster, golden crab, and black seabass occurs in the EEZ. The Governors should be encouraged to submit nominees from both the commercial and recreational sectors so that the Secretary may maintain a balance between these two interest groups. Commercial nominees with backgrounds in the snapper grouper, coastal migratory pelagic (e.g., mackerels), spiny lobster, or highly migratory pelagic fisheries (e.g., tuna and shark), and with experience in hook-and-line (including longline or powered reel), spiny lobster, golden crab, or black seabass pot gear would be useful to supplement current Council membership. Nominees with charterboat experience in the recreational fishery should also be considered. While nominees to help balance the commercial and recreational membership are very important, nominees from the conservation, academic or other appropriate areas are also encouraged in order to bring additional knowledge to the Council in its efforts to consider and satisfy all mandates associated with fisheries management. The Governors are also strongly encouraged to include representatives who have a strong focus on the conservation of the area's living marine resources.

DISCUSSION:

The SAFMC has prepared Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone: red drum; shrimp (penaeid and rock); coral, coral reef and live/hard bottom habitats; golden crab; dolphin-wahoo; and the snapper-grouper species complex. The SAFMC and the GMFMC have prepared joint FMPs for spiny lobster and coastal migratory pelagic species (mackerel) of the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

During 2002, the SAFMC submitted to NOAA Fisheries management actions limiting effort and requiring a vessel monitoring system in the rock shrimp fishery; proposing to redistribute effort and specify required sustainable fisheries act (SFA) parameters in the golden crab fishery; proposing a FMP to manage the dolphin and wahoo fisheries on the Atlantic seaboard; developing options to specify required SFA parameters in the snapper-grouper fishery; required

shrimp permits, night time closures and trawl size restrictions for the shrimp fishery; and decided that Atlantic coast mackerels required no adjustments this year. Other actions included gathering comments and developing options on the use of marine reserves for fisheries management purposes.

During 2003, the SAFMC will submit for Secretarial review and approval new FMPs for *Sargassum* Habitat, Calico scallops, Spiny Lobster Amendment 7 addressing tailing permits and the structure of the management system; Mackerel Amendment 13 that would separate South Atlantic and Gulf FMPs, amend the south Atlantic fishing year and make changes to framework; Snapper-Grouper Amendment 13 making revisions in permit transfers, SFA provisions and section 7 consultations; Amendment 14 amending marine reserves; and various framework adjustment actions for mackerel, snapper-grouper, wreckfish and coral.

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4. Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

The term for one CFMC member expired in 2002. As a result of the 2002 appointment, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the CFMC is two commercial, one recreational, and “one “other.” There were no CFMC at-large vacancies occurring in 2002; therefore the geographical balance regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the CFMC was not affected. The appointee is as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector
Eugenio E. Piñeiro/commercial

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector
Ricardo Cotte-Santana/ “other”

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the CFMC:

COUNCIL: CARIBBEAN FMC			2002	
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (4)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	BROWN, VIRDIN C.	VI	2003	O
O	PIÑEIRO, EUGENIO E.	PR	2005	C
A	LESTER, MONICA M.	VI	2004	C
A	SANABRIA, MIGUEL A.	PR	2003	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2003:

1. Virdin C. Brown - “other” sector - U.S. Virgin Islands’ obligatory seat
2. Miguel A. Sanabria - recreational fishing sector - at-large seat (Puerto Rico); by law, Mr. Sanabria, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

The two members of the Council whose terms do not expire in 2003 are from the commercial sector. The Governors should be encouraged, therefore, to nominate several knowledgeable members of the recreational sector so that the Secretary can maintain the required balance on

the Council. In addition, nominees from the “other” sector, including representatives from the conservation, academic, or other related fisheries areas, would provide the Secretary with opportunity to appoint individuals who bring an additional perspective and knowledge to Council deliberations.

DISCUSSION:

For 2003, the CFMC expects to submit amendments to its four Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) (Reef Fish FMP, Spiny Lobster FMP, Coral Reef Resources, and Queen Conch resources) to further meet requirements of the Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA), that include overfishing definitions with status determination criteria for “overfishing” and “overfished,” stock rebuilding for “overfished species,” measures to regulate fishing mortality; conserving and protecting yellowfin grouper; descriptions of fishing communities, collection of fisheries data, and bycatch assessment and minimization. In addition, an SFA Amendment would establish a permit system for all fisheries, regulate fish traps, establish additional seasonal closures to protect fish spawning aggregations, prohibit the deployment of fish and lobster traps on top of coral reefs, and establish a framework procedure for future amendment to the Reef Fish FMP. The CFMC may consider closed seasons for the spiny lobster fishery as a possible new amendment under its Spiny Lobster FMP after the data have been analyzed. The CFMC in 2003 will be amending the Essential Fish Habitat FMP that amends all other FMPs. The CFMC also has asked for fishery management jurisdiction in Exclusive Economic Zone waters surrounding the U.S. Territory of Navassa Island located between Haiti and Jamaica.

5. Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2002 for three GMFMC members. As a result of the 2002 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives remains unchanged at three commercial, seven recreational, and one "other." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the GMFMC remains unchanged. The appointee and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Maumus F. Claverie/recreational
James B. Fensom/recreational
Joseph P. Hendrix, Jr./commercial

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment
Reappointment
Pete V. Aparicio/commercial
(resigned July 2002)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the GMFMC:

COUNCIL: GULF OF MEXICO FMC			2002	
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (11)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	BASCO, IRBY W.	TX	2004	R
O	BELL, KAREN L.J.	FL	2003	C
O	DUMONT, DAN	AL	2003	R
O	FISCHER, MYRON J.	LA	2003	R
O	SAUCIER, DAVID E.	MS	2004	R
A	CLAVERIE, MAUMUS F.	LA	2005	R
A	FENSOM, JAMES B.	FL	2005	R
A	HENDRIX, JOSEPH P. JR.	TX	2005	C
A	MORRIS, JULIE K.	FL	2004	O
A	WALKER, BOBBI M.	AL	2003	R
A	WILLIAMS, HAROLYN KAY	MS	2003	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2003:

1. Karen L.J. Bell - commercial fishing sector - Florida's obligatory seat
2. Dan Dumont - recreational fishing sector - Alabama's obligatory seat

3. Myron J. Fischer - recreational fishing sector - Louisiana's obligatory seat
4. Bobbi M. Walker - recreational fishing sector - at-large seat (Alabama)
5. Harolyn Kay Williams - commercial fishing sector - at-large seat (Mississippi)

2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

After excluding the members whose terms expire in 2003, one commercial member, four recreational members and one "other" sector member will continue on the Council after August, 2003. The continuing commercial member's experience is in aquaculture and seafood marketing, while all the recreational members are rod and reel fishermen. Governors should be strongly encouraged to focus their nominations on the commercial sector so that the Secretary can achieve a better balance of commercial and recreational interests on the Council. All nominees should have a high stewardship ethic and should represent a mix from all major commercial fisheries, particularly the shrimp, migratory pelagic, reef fish, and lobster fisheries. Recreational nominees should include members from the charter boat fishery. The Governors should be also encouraged to provide nominees from the "other" sector, particularly economists or social scientists who can assist and guide the Council with an understanding of regulatory impacts in its deliberations.

DISCUSSION:

The GMFMC has prepared fishery management plans (Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico Exclusive Economic Zone: Reef fish resources; shrimp; coral and coral reefs; red drum; and stone crab. The GMFMC and SAFMC have prepared joint FMPs for the spiny lobster fishery and coastal migratory pelagic species (king and Spanish mackerel, dolphin, and cobia) of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic.

During 2002, the GMFMC submitted to NOAA Fisheries, the following actions: Shrimp Amendment 11, providing for permitting of shrimp vessels and prohibiting traps in the royal red shrimp fishery; Shrimp Amendment 10, addressing trawl bycatch in the eastern Gulf; a generic amendment addressing the establishment of the Tortugas Marine Reserves; a generic amendment for a charter vessel/headboat permit moratorium; Stone Crab Amendment 7, creating a trap limitation program through a transferable trap certificate program; the first five-year segment of a 32-year rebuilding program for red snapper; a recommendation regarding the Texas shrimp closure; an amendment establishing a rebuilding plan for the greater amberjack fishery; and actions for the grouper fishery necessary for a rebuilding program for red grouper, including measures to reduce fishing mortality on other grouper species..

During 2003, the GMFMC expects to submit to NOAA Fisheries the following actions: a resubmission of Amendment 18 options paper to the Reef Fish FMP that addresses improved conservation for several stocks; draft Amendment 21 for the Reef Fish FMP with options for continuing the Madison-Swanson area closure; draft Amendment 22 for the Reef Fish FMP with options for including the rebuilding plan for red grouper; Amendment 23 for the Reef Fish

FMP containing options for a red snapper rebuilding plan; draft Amendment 24 for the Reef Fish FMP with alternatives for a red snapper IFQ program; a draft EIS for the generic Amendment addressing essential fish habitat; an amendment to the Coastal Migratory Pelagic FMP adding wahoo and blackfin tuna to the management unit; a regulatory amendment specifying total allowable catch for Gulf-group king mackerel; Shrimp Amendment 13, addressing status determination criteria for shrimp stocks, adding rock shrimp to the management unit, and considering a bycatch quota for red snapper; and recommendations addressing a Texas shrimp closure.

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6. Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2002 for two PFMC members. As a result of the 2002 appointments and the appointment to Idaho's obligatory seat, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the PFMC is three commercial, three recreational, two "other," and one tribal representative. The at-large reappointment did not affect the current geographical balance regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the PFMC. The appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Ralph H. Brown/commercial
Mark V. Cedergreen/recreational
David W. Ortmann/ "other"

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment
James H. Lone/recreational
Jack T. Barraclough/ "other"
(term expired August 2001)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the PFMC:

COUNCIL: PACIFIC FMC			2002	
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (9)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	CAITO, JAMES G.	CA	2003	C
O	CEDERGREEN, MARK V.	WA	2005	R
O	ORTMANN, DAVID W.	ID	2004	O
O	RADTKE, HANS D.	OR	2003	O
O	PFMC TRIBAL SEAT: HARP, JAMES E.	WA	2003	T* (Tribal)
A	ALVERSON, ROBERT D.	WA	2003	C
A	BROWN, RALPH H.	OR	2005	C
A	HANSEN, DONALD K.	CA	2003	R
A	THOMAS, ROGER	CA	2004	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2003:

1. Robert D. Alverson - commercial fishing sector - at-large seat (Washington)

2. James G. Caito - commercial fishing sector - California's obligatory seat; by law Mr. Caito, who is completing a third consecutive term is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.
3. Donald K. Hansen - recreational fishing sector - at-large seat (California)
4. James E. Harp - "other sector" - Tribal representative obligatory seat - (Quinault Indian Tribe)
5. Hans D. Radtke - "other" sector - Oregon's obligatory seat

2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

Four members of the Council whose terms continue beyond August 2003 include one commercial, two recreational and one "other" sector representative. Because much of the work of the Council will focus on restoration of groundfish stocks, managing salmon fisheries to minimize impacts on species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and management of Pacific highly migratory species, Governors should be encouraged to provide a number of nominees from the commercial sector who have knowledge and experience in those fisheries. In addition, the Governors should be encouraged to include nominees from the recreational sector to afford the Secretary the ability to balance membership. Nominations should also include individuals from the "other" sector, particularly economic and social scientists who can bring an understanding to the Council concerning the impacts on the industry and dependent communities from the difficult choices that face the Council in the next several years.

DISCUSSION:

The PFMC has prepared Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) for the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery, the West Coast salmon fisheries, the coastal pelagic species fisheries, and highly migratory species fisheries. The PFMC also has responsibility for allocating Pacific halibut among treaty Indian and non-Indian commercial and recreational users in Area 2A under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act.

During 2002, the PFMC submitted to NOAA Fisheries actions that include the following: 2002 fishery specifications and management measures for groundfish; qualifying criteria for tier qualification in the fixed gear sablefish fishery; Amendment 10 to the Coastal Pelagics FMP; emergency revision of the annual sardine reallocation date; and establishing optimum yield and overfishing definitions for West Coast salmon fisheries. In addition, the Council approved Amendment 17 to the Pacific groundfish FMP that will change the annual management cycle for groundfish to a biennial cycle, and approved a proposed new FMP for West Coast highly migratory species fisheries.

One of the greatest challenges facing the PFMC in 2003 and for the next several years is management of the groundfish fishery. The PFMC must rebuild overfished stocks, reduce fishing capacity, provide sustainable harvest levels, allocate various groundfish stocks among commercial, recreational and treaty Indian fisheries, reduce bycatch, improve information on all aspects of the fishery, and address impacts to EFH. Harvest levels in 2003 continue to be substantially reduced for commercial and recreational groundfish fisheries coastwide. Rebuilding programs for some species will extend for decades because these stocks are slow-growing, long-lived, and have low productive rates.

The challenge for the salmon fishery is to provide opportunities for commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian fisheries in the ocean while protecting Endangered Species Act-listed and other depressed salmon stocks. Non-fishing impacts to essential salmon habitat in freshwater continue to be a major problem limiting recovery of depressed stocks.

During 2003, the PFMC is expected to complete and submit to NOAA Fisheries rebuilding plans for up to 9 overfished groundfish stocks, change its management cycle for groundfish, set annual salmon quotas and regulations, consider changes to the sardine allocation contained in the Coastal Pelagics FMP and, if approved by NOAA Fisheries, implement the Highly Migratory Species FMP.

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7. North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2002 for two NPFMC obligatory members. In addition, former obligatory member Robert C. Penney, who was completing a term due to expire on August 10, 2003, resigned in September 2002. In December 2002, Ben Ellis was appointed to replace Mr. Penny for the remainder of his term. Notwithstanding the 2002 appointments, and the out-of-cycle vacancy, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the NPFMC remains at four commercial, one recreational, and two "other." There are no available at-large seats on the NPFMC. The appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Milton J. Bundy/commercial
Hazel C. Nelson/commercial

Ben H. Ellis/recreational

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment
Harold R. Samuelson, Jr./commercial
(ineligible, by law, for renomination to a fourth consecutive term)
Robert C. Penny/recreational
(resigned September 2002)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the NPFMC:

COUNCIL: NORTH PACIFIC FMC			2002	
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (7)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	ANDERSON, STOSH S.	AK	2004	C
O	BENTON, DAVID	AK	2003	O
O	BUNDY, MILTON J.	WA	2005	C
O	FLUHARTY, DAVID L.	WA	2003	O
O	ELLIS, BEN H.	AK	2003	R
O	MADSEN, STEPHANIE D.	AK	2004	C
O	NELSON, HAZEL C.	AK	2005	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2003:

1. David Benton - "other" sector - Alaska's obligatory seat

2. David L. Fluharty - “other” sector - Washington’s obligatory seat; by law, Mr. Fluharty, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.
3. Ben H. Ellis - recreational fishing sector - Alaska’s obligatory seat

2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

The four members of the NPFMC that will continue service beyond August of 2003 are from the commercial sector. These members have experience in harvesting and/or processing all of the major commercial fish species and gear used in those fisheries. The governors should be encouraged to continue to nominate members of the recreational and “other” sectors, including economists or sociologists, who can bring a broad perspective and wide range of experiences to Council deliberations.

DISCUSSION:

The NPFMC has five Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) in place for (1) Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish, (2) Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) groundfish, (3) salmon fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone, (4) BSAI king and Tanner crab fisheries, and (5) scallop fisheries in the GOA and BSAI. The Council recently adopted additional amendments to the groundfish FMPs, which have not yet been approved and implemented. Routine management of the fisheries under the salmon, scallop, and BSAI crab FMPs is deferred to the State of Alaska while the Council retains oversight of major allocation decisions. In addition, under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982, the Council has authority over allocation issues affecting the Pacific halibut fishery in and off Alaska while the International Pacific Halibut Commission retains responsibility for conservation management of this fishery.

The 2002 report to congress on the status of fisheries of the United States identified as overfished 3 stocks for which the Council has management responsibility: two Tanner crab species, and the St. Matthew blue king crab. The Council promptly began rebuilding plans for these species as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act and these plans have been approved by NOAA Fisheries . A fourth stock, the Pribilof Islands Blue king crab, subsequently was determined by NOAA Fisheries to be overfished. The Council has initiated the development of a rebuilding plan and has scheduled final action on that plan for October 2003.

The most significant fishery management issues that faced the Council in 2002 and will again receive priority attention in 2003, include (1) Steller sea lion protection measures and NOAA Fisheries’ response to associated and ongoing litigation issues; (2) continued consideration of rationalization programs for the BSAI crab fisheries and the GOA groundfish fisheries; and (3) continuing work towards the development and completion of major environmental impact statements addressing alternatives for essential fish habitat and programmatic level assessments of the groundfish and crab fishery management.

8. Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2002 for three WPFMC members. As a result of the 2002 appointments, and a fishing sector change for Frank P. Farm, Jr., from recreational fishing sector to “other” sector, the composition of fishing sector representatives currently is three commercial, three recreational, and two “other,” representing a change from three commercial, four recreational and one “other.” The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the WPFMC remains unchanged. The appointee and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Frank P. Farm, Jr.
Roy N. Morioka
Benigno M. Sablan/commercial

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment
Reappointment
Benny K. Pangelinan / “other”
(fishing sector change from
commercial to “other”)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the WPFMC:

COUNCIL: WESTERN PACIFIC FMC			2002	
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (8)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	GUTHERTZ, JUDITH P.	GU	2003	O
O	HO, BRYAN Y.Y.	HI	2003	C
O	SABLAN, BENIGNO M.	CNMI	2005	C
O	SUNIA, AITOFELE T.	AmS	2003	R
A	EBISUI, EDWIN A. JR.	HI	2004	R
A	FARM, FRANK P. JR.	HI	2005	O
A	MCCOY, FRANK W. SR.	AmS	2004	C
A	MORIOKA, ROY N.	HI	2005	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2003:

1. Judith P. Guthertz - “other” sector - Guam’s obligatory seat

2. Bryan Y.Y. Ho - commercial fishing sector - Hawaii's obligatory seat
3. Aitofele T. Sunia - recreational fishing sector - American Samoa's obligatory seat

2003 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

Of the terms that will not expire in August 2003, two seats are held by commercial fishermen, two are from the recreational sector and one is from the "other" sector. The governors should be encouraged to provide the Secretary with a broad spectrum of nominees from all sectors as a basis for maintaining a balanced membership on the WPFMC, and for bringing a wide range of experience and knowledge to address the varied issues that the WPFMC will deal with in the next several years.

DISCUSSION:

Fishery management plans are currently in place for five fisheries under the jurisdiction of the WPFMC: pelagics, bottomfish and seamount groundfish, crustaceans, precious corals, and coral reef ecosystems. The coral reef ecosystems fishery management plan was approved by the Secretary of Commerce in 2002.

In 2002, NOAA Fisheries implemented permanent sea turtle mitigation measures governing the western Pacific pelagic fisheries and sea bird mitigation measures for the Hawaii-based longline fishery as recommended by the Council. These measures have reduced the accidental take of sea turtles and seabirds in the Hawaii longline fishery. Ongoing scientific research on seabird and sea turtle mitigation techniques by NOAA Fisheries, in collaboration with the WPFMC, fishermen, and conservation organizations, is intended to facilitate cost-effective adjustments to the current bycatch mitigation measures to benefit fishermen and protected sea turtles and seabirds. Also, in 2002, NOAA Fisheries implemented other regulatory amendments of the WPFMC: large vessel 50-mile closed areas in nearshore waters around American Samoa, new regulations for western Pacific precious coral fisheries, and permit and reporting requirements for pelagic troll and handline fishery in the Pacific remote island areas. The WPFMC completed supplemental fishery management plan amendments for overfishing, bycatch, and fishing communities consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Act. These plan amendments will be considered for approval by the Secretary of Commerce in 2003. The WPFMC initiated action to manage the bottomfish fishery in federal waters around Guam and to address fishery management issues pertaining to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery, especially related to participation in the fishery by indigenous Pacific islanders under a community development program.

Internationally, the WPFMC hosted the 2nd International Fishers Forum in Honolulu in October 2002. This highly successful conference enabled fishermen from 28 countries to discuss existing and new ideas on bycatch deterrent techniques to reduce worldwide the incidental take of sea turtles and seabirds by longline gear. The conferees resolved that WPFMC should present

the results of the forum at the next session of United Nation's Committee of Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization. The WPFMC continued to participate on U.S. delegations or as observers in annual meetings of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. Also, WPFMC members and staff served on the US delegation to meetings of the preparatory conferences for the Western and Central Pacific Highly Migratory Species Convention. They expect to be actively engaged in future deliberations.

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F. Appendix - Statistical Fisheries Data

In addition to assessing the apportionment of membership on each RFMC, this Report provides, as required by the Magnuson-Stevenson Act, the following statistical information about the status of fisheries managed under each RFMC, and also identifies the number of RFMC members participating in those fisheries. The most recent data were compiled to show the volume of fisheries production and the related effort in each fishery managed under an FMP.^{8/}

^{8/}The Secretary also has management authority over highly migratory species (HMS) in the Exclusive Economic Zone off the New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico coasts. An additional table has been included within the following Appendix which lists FMPs and other statistical data for Atlantic and Gulf HMS.

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Appendix

Report to Congress on Apportionment of Membership on the Regional Fishery Management Councils in 2002

This appendix provides statistical data required by Section 302(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Unless otherwise indicated, the data are for the 2001 fisheries (or as otherwise indicated), listed by fishery management plan (FMP). Reported landings noted are for catches throughout the entire range of a fishery managed under the FMP. Beginning from the leftmost column, the listed data are:

1. FMPs developed by each RFMC;
2. the type of fishery managed under each plan, i.e., commercial or recreational, or mixed (see below);
3. species/species groups making up each fishery
4. the weight of each species or species group in that fishery landed in 2002 (or as otherwise indicated) showing both the landings for commercial and recreational fishers, if recreational information is available;
5. the number of fishermen participating in the listed fisheries, if available; otherwise, the number of U.S. vessels either permitted or estimated to be operating in the fishery;
6. gear and processing methods used in each fishery; and
7. the range and seasonality of the fishery; and
8. the number of current RFMC members who are commercial or recreational sector participants in each fishery, or their representatives^{9/}

LEGEND FOR TYPE FISHERIES

C - Commercial fishery: Eighty percent or more of the reported landings are by commercial fishermen.

c - Mainly commercial fishery: More than 60 percent but less than 80 percent of the reported landings are by commercial fishermen.

x - Mixed fishery: Sixty percent or less of the reported landings are by each group of commercial and of recreational fishermen.

r - Mainly recreational fishery: More than 60 percent but less than 80 percent of the reported landings are by recreational fishermen.

R - Recreational fishery: Eighty percent or more of the reported landings are by recreational fishermen.

^{9/}Vertical sums in the attached appendices may not match the sums entered for interest sectors in Table 1 page 7. If one or more fishermen actively participated in more than one fishery, the vertical sum will exceed the number entered in the interest sector column; if some members are not longer active fishermen, the vertical sum will be less than the number indicated in the interest sector column.

A-i NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Pro
Northeast Multi-Species	C	Commercial Atlantic cod Haddock Pollock Hakes Ocean perch (redfish) Yellowtail flounder American plaice Winter flounder Witch flounder Windowpane flounder* Atlantic halibut Ocean pout	12,820 5,112 3,612 17,418 360 7,323 4,433 6,964 3,024 178 9 18	3,786	trawl, longline, gillnet, hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutt
		Recreational Cod Pollock Winter flounder	3,200 646 592	652	hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutt
Atlantic Sea Scallops	C	Atlantic sea scallops	21,285	2,678	dredge & trawl	FMP area/year round	han anc
Atlantic Salmon	R	Atlantic salmon	0	none	none	none	non
Deep-sea Red Crab	C	Deep-sea red crab	4,004	n/a	traps	FMP area/year round	whc pro
Atlantic Herring	C	Atlantic herring	96,870	1,989	Mid-water trawl; purse seines; weirs; otter trawl	FMP area/year round	fres shoi
Monkfish	C	Monkfish	12,573	2,708	gillnets, trawls, dredges	FMP area/year round	fres

* = Charter/party boat only

NEFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2002	Recreational 2002	Other 2002
9	2	1

Statistics for the above data were provided by the Northeast Region, NMFS, and also are contained in "Fisheries of the United States, 2000" (August 2001), except as noted.

* - NMFS weighout data

A-ii MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (MAFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Process
Atlantic Mackerel, Squid & Butterfish	C	Commercial Atlantic mackerel	12,342	2,680	otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/ year round	frozen
	C	Squid, <u>Loligo</u> Squid, <u>Illex</u> Butterfish	14,254 4,009 4,432		trawl; traps	FMP area/ year round	at-sea mackerel fillets
		Recreational Atlantic mackerel	1,536	610		FMP area/year round	
Atlantic Surf Clam & Ocean Quahogs	C	Atlantic surfclams Ocean quahogs	31,236 17,245	1,628 1,589	dredge	FMP area/ year round (ITQ mgmt.)	shucked shore
Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass							
Summer Flounder (fluke)	x	Commercial	4,976	989	hook & line, otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/ year round	fillets ashore frozen
		Recreational	5,094	691			
Scup	x	Commercial	1,858	890			
		Recreational	1,933	577			
Black Sea Bass	x	Commercial	1,306	967			
		Recreational	1,545	629			

¹ = Charter/party boat only.

(MAFMC FMP data and other pertinent information are continued on the next page.)

A-ii MAFMC (continued)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2002	
								Comm	Rec.
Tilefish	C	Golden Tilefish	80	1,370	longline, hook & line	FMP area/year round	fresh/frozen	1	
Atlantic Bluefish	X x	Commercial Recreational	3,663 5,104	3,336 794	hook & line; otter trawl; gillnet	FMP area/year round	fillets fresh/frozen	2	5
Spiny Dogfish	C	Commercial	2,201	2,951	gillnet; trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh/frozen	5	0

¹ = Charter/party boat only.

MAFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2002	Recreational 2002	Other 2002
6	5	2

Statistics for the above data were provided by the Northeast Region, and also are contained in "Fisheries of the United States, 2001" (August 2002).

A-iii SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (SAFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits: ¹ Federal or Florida (FL))	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2002	
								Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Coast Red Drum	n/a ³	Commercial - Red drum Recreational	68 ² 603 ²	n/a ³	n/a ³	n/a ³	n/a ³	0	0
Golden Crab	C	Golden Crab	318	11	Traps	FMP area/ year-round	Fresh	3	0
Snapper/Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic	x	Commercial Groupers Wreckfish Snappers Other species	850 78 1,013 1,611	921	Rod and reel, bandit gear, longline & handline	FMP area/ prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau grouper and Goliath fish (jewfish) year-round	At sea, gutted	3	
		Recreational Groupers Snappers Other Species	720 936 3,034	1005 (for-hire)	Handline, rod and reel, bandit gear, spear, powerhead	FMP area		3	
Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic Region	c	Commercial all	10,551	N/A ⁴	Trawls	FMP area/ year-round	Shoreside processing	2	
		Recreational white	n/a ⁵	N/A ⁵	n/a ⁵				0
Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitat of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial-Octocoral (colonies)	15,927 colonies	FL: 45	Hand harvest	South FL/ year-round	Fresh	1	
		Recreational	n/a ³	n/a ³					0
Gulf of Mexico Spiny Lobster [Shared with GMFMC, see table A-v]								3	2
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources [Shared with GMFMC, see Table A-v]								3	3

- ¹ Number of vessels with active permits at any time during 2002.
² State landings only.
³ Not applicable (n/a). Fishery closed in EEZ.
⁴ Not Available (N/A). No proposed FMP measures to allow NMFS to collect this data.
⁵ Not applicable (n/a). No recreational fishery in the EEZ.

(A summary of the SAFMC fishing sector membership, as well as sources for the above data, is on the next page).

A-iii SAFMC (continued)

SAFMC - MEMBERSHIP (One Slot is Vacant)

Commercial 2002	Recreational 2002	Other 2002
3	3	1

Sources: Commercial landings information for the 2000/2001 seasons was provided by the NMFS Fisheries Statistics Branch, Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates for 2000 and 2001 were obtained from the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey. NMFS Southeast Region Permits Division Permits Team, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2000 and 2001.

A-iv CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (CFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons). No correction factor	Vessel permits	Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants/Representatives in 2002	
							Comm.	Rec.
Spiny Lobster	Commercial	130(PR) 31*(USVI)	n/a ¹	trap/pot, dip net gillnet trammel net hand harvest snare	year-round	fresh, landed whole	1	
	Recreational	N/A ²	n/a ¹	dip net, trap, pot, gillnet, trammel net	year-round			1
Reef Fish (snappers, groupers, ornamental species)	Commercial	879(PR) 346*(USVI)	n/a ¹	longline, hook and line, trap, pot, gillnet trammel net	closures by species and area, prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau and Goliath groupers, as well as juvenile red hind and mutton snapper as aquarium species; otherwise year-round	gutted at-sea, shore-side processing	1	
	Recreational	403 ³ (PR) N/A ² (USVI)	n/a ¹	dip net, handline, rod and reel, slurp gun, spear				1
Coral Reef Resources	Commercial	0	n/a ¹	dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest	year-round	live, fresh	0	
	Stony Corals Gorgonians Live Rock Other Invertebrates Algae Seagrasses	0 0 0 0 0 0	n/a ¹ n/a ¹ n/a ¹ n/a ¹ n/a ¹ n/a ¹					
	Recreational	N/A ²	n/a ¹	dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest				1

(CFMC FMP data and other pertinent information is continued on the next page.)

A-iv CFMC (continued)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessel permits	Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants/Representatives in 2002	
							Comm.	Rec.
Queen Conch	Commercial	113(PR) 9*(USVI)	n/a ¹	hand harvest	October-June	live, landed whole, shore-side processing	1	
	Recreational	N/A ²	n/a ¹	hand harvest				1

PR (Puerto Rico); USVI (US Virgin Islands)

* = 1992 TIP data

1 = not applicable; no permits required.

2 = Not Available; MRFSS information for 2001 is available only for finfish for Puerto Rico only.

3 = MRFSS data; 2001.

CFMC - Membership

Commercial 2002	Recreational 2002	Other 2002
2	1	1

A-v GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (GMFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Fishery/Species, Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2002	
								Comm.	Rec.
Stone Crab Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-Stone Crab	2,437 (claw weight)	1,726	traps	FL West Coast/ Oct-Apr	at-sea, declaw; shoreside processing	0	0
		Recreational	N/A ¹	N/A ¹	traps, scuba & other gear				
Red Drum Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	R	Commercial - Red Drum	10.0 ²	n/a ³	n/a ³	EEZ Closed n/a ³	n/a ³	0	7
		Recreational	6,665 ²	n/a ³	n/a ³	EEZ Closed n/a ³	n/a ³		
Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	x	Commercial Grouper	5,508	1,212	longline & other fishtrap & other fishtrap only hook & line	FMP area/ year round, ⁴ and ⁵	at-sea, gutted; shoreside processing	1	7
		Red Snapper	1,995						
		Other snapper	1,348						
		Other species	1,249						
		Recreational Grouper	2,578	N/A ¹ (2,006 for-hire vessels)		FMP area/ year round, and ⁶			
		Red Snapper	2,138						
		Other snappers	1,228						
		Other species	614						
Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-All	109,886	ca. 7,500 (Fed. Permit to be issued in 2002)	otter trawls	FMP area/ year round; annual Texas Closure	tail separation at-sea; shoreside processing	1	0
		Recreational	N/A ¹	N/A ¹	cast or dip nets	FMP area/ year round			
Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	C	Commercial Spiny lobster	1,539	140 commercial 390 tailing FL: 1,955	traps, diving, trawl, other scuba & related gear	South FL/ Aug-Apr	tail separation at-sea; shoreside processing	0	0
		Recreational	541	FL:126,906					
Coral & Coral Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial Octocoral	9,813 colonies	FL: 28	scuba & related gear	South FL/ year round	fresh	0	0
		Recreational	N/A ¹	n/a ³					
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	r	Commercial King mackerel	2,234	1,822	gillnets, hook & line	Gulf & South Atlantic/ year round, commercial closures when quotas are reached	At-sea, gutted, shoreside processing	3	7
		Spanish mackerel	1,889	1,531					
		Recreational King mackerel	4,650	N/A ¹	hook & line				
		Spanish mackerel	2,569	N/A ¹ (2,730 for-hire vessels)					

N/A¹ Not Available (No Federal permit or reporting requirements)

² State landings only

n/a³ Not applicable (fishery closed in Federal waters);

⁴ Fishing prohibited year-round on Madison and Swanson sites and Steamboat Lumps. Commercial fishery for gag, red grouper, and black grouper closed February 15 to March 15.

⁵ Commercial red snapper fishery is closed from January 1 until noon February 1 and thereafter from noon on the 10th of each month to noon on the first of each succeeding month until the quota is reached or until noon on October 1, whichever occurs first. From October 1 to December 1, the fishery is closed from noon on the 10th of each month to noon on the first of each succeeding month until the quota is reached or until December 31, the end of the fishing year.

⁶ Recreational fishery for red snapper is closed from January 1 to April 20 and from November 1 through December 31.

from preceding page:

A summary of the GMFMC fishing sector membership, as well as sources for the preceding data, is below:

GMFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2002	Recreational 2002	Other 20021
3	7	1

Sources: Commercial landings information for the 2000/2001 seasons was provided by the NMFS Fisheries Statistics Branch, Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates for 2000 and 2001 were obtained from the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey. NMFS Southeast Region Permits Division Permits Team, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2000 and 2001.

A-vi PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (PFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2002	
								Comm.	Rec.
Ocean Salmon Fisheries off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California	x	Commercial Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon	505,600 ¹ 75,000 3,000	1,165	troll	CA/May-Oct OR/April-Oct WA/May-Sept	fresh and frozen	1	3
		Recreational Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon	174,000 ¹ 264,000 3,900	410,000 angler trips; (all species)	hook & line	CA/Feb-Nov OR/April-Oct WA/July-Sept			
Pacific Coast Groundfish	c	Total Pacific whiting Flatfish Rockfish Other groundfish Recreational Groundfish	173,634 13,808 7,796 8,808 3,084	Limited Entry: 500 Open Access: 1,500 N/A ²	trawl; hook & line; pots; set nets	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	headed & gutted; fillets; surimi; fresh & frozen	3	3
Northern Anchovy	c	Anchovy	4,603	0	purse seine	So. CA/ year round	dead bait; meal, oil	0	1

PFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2002	Recreational 2002	Other 20021
3	3	3*

¹ Salmon catch expressed as numbers of fish.

² = Not Applicable: permits not required for some species.

* = total of three "other" includes tribal representative.

Statistics for the above data:

1) Pacific Coast groundfish fishery data was extracted directly from the PacFin data system.

2) "Review of 2001 Ocean Salmon Fisheries:" (February 2002; Pacific Fishery Management Council).

A-vii NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NPFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)*	Fishermen & Crew**	Gear	Fishing Areas and Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2002***	
								Comm.	Rec.
Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA)	C	Pollock Pacific cod Flatfish Rockfish Sablefish Atka mackerel Misc. species	70,486 41,614 31,784 21,128 12,125 76 4,801	1,887 Federal fishing permits 1,839 LLP permits (some Interim)	trawl; pots; hook & line; jigs	area/time closures adjusted in season LLP permits have gear and area endorsements	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	4	0
Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)	C	Pollock Pacific cod Flatfish Rockfish Sablefish Atka mackerel Misc. species	1,388,276 176,659 140,211 17,642 1,937 61,559 28,944	931 Federal fishing permits 614 LLP permits (some Interim)	trawl; pots; hook & line; jigs	area/time closures adjusted in season LLP permits have gear and area endorsements	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	4	0
Commercial King and Tanner Crab Fisheries in the BSAI	C	King Crab <u>C. bairdi</u> Tanner Crab <u>C. opilio</u> Tanner Crab	7,099 939 11,453	387 LLP permits (some Interim)	pots	Deferred to State; generally November and winter months LLP permits have fishery endorsements	cooked; refrigerated; frozen	1	0
Salmon fisheries in the EEZ off Alaska and adjacent state waters	C	Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon Sockeye salmon Chum salmon	1,144 5,112 433 22 2,003	2,260 permit holders	troll****	Deferred to State; generally West area is closed; southeast area time area limits.	fresh; gutted & gilled; glazed; frozen; canned; smoked	1	1
Scallop Fishery off Alaska	C	Weathervane scallops (no fisheries for other scallop species listed in FMP)	261	9 LLP permits	dredges	Deferred to State; adjusted inseason	hand shucked	0	0

§ In addition to these five FMPs, the NPFMC also is responsible for developing regulations governing Pacific halibut fisheries in and off of Alaska under authority of the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (Halibut Act). These regulations, which are in addition to and not in conflict with regulations adopted by the International Pacific Halibut Commission, primarily allocate halibut fishing privileges among U.S. fishermen. Although the NPFMC develops halibut management regulations according to principles of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, no halibut FMP exists because the Magnuson-Stevens Act does not apply to management of the Pacific halibut fisheries. In 2001, the commercial catch of halibut in and off Alaska was 26,561 mt net weight. This catch was made by 3,532 persons holding a total of 4,947 permits were authorized to harvest halibut under the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) Programs.

* Salmon data are from the State of Alaska; groundfish, scallop, and BSAI crab data are from NMFS. Salmon catch data represent only the southeast AK troll fishery harvest that is governed by the Salmon FMP and managed as one fishery, inside and outside State waters by the State of Alaska.

(Explanations for the asterisks and other notes are continued on the next page.)

A-vii NPFMC (continued)

****Data represent persons or vessels permitted to fish as of August 2002 except as noted below; not the number of individuals actually involved in the operation of vessels, catching and processing fish. The actual number of License Limitation Program (LLP) permits has been decreasing steadily due to appeals adjudications and resulting revocations; and the number of permits actually used to harvest fish is fewer than that indicated by the data. Participation in all FMP fisheries is governed by some form of limited access system. License Limitation Programs (LLP) were in effect in 2000 for all fisheries except salmon (which is governed by the State of Alaska limited entry system), Demersal Shelf Rockfish in the Southeast Gulf of Alaska, IFQ sablefish, and IFQ and CDQ halibut fisheries. Of the approximate total 2,396 current LLP permits, most (2,009) authorized fishing for groundfish in the BSAI and/or GOA and 387 authorized fishing for BSAI crab species. A number of permits were Interim and will be revoked following final adjudication of claims. Also, a total of 872 persons held 1,725 IFQ permits at the end of 2001, for harvesting sablefish with fixed gear in the GOA and BSAI under the IFQ Program. The salmon permit holder data represent just those permit holders who were permitted to fish in the EEZ under the salmon FMP in 2001.**

*****Secretarial appointed NPFMC membership in 2002: Commercial 4; Recreational 1; Other 2**

******Troll gear is the only gear authorized to be used in the EEZ under the salmon FMP, however, other gear types such as gill nets, and purse seines are authorized in other areas of the State to harvest salmon.**

A-viii WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (WPFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2002	
								Comm.	Rec.
Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish	c	Bottomfish Seamount Groundfish	292 ^a	2,900 ^b	handline rod & reel	FMP areas (year round/except Hancock Seamount (closed until year 2004)	fresh fish market	2	1
Crustaceans	C	Spiny lobster, Slipper lobster	0 (NWHI Fishery closed 2000-2002)	15 federal limited entry NWHI permits	traps	NWHI & MHI/ NWHI: 7/1-12/31 MHI- 1/1-4/30 & 9/1-12/31 (NOTE: NWHI Fishery closed 2000-2002)	flash frozen and live market	1	1
Pelagics ²	c	Tunas Swordfish Other (inc. sharks) Blue marlin Mahimahi Other billfish Wahoo	10,358 230 732 669 622 509 560 see: footnote (c) below	Estimated 7,400 ^d	troll handline longline	FMP areas/ year round	fresh fish market Whole frozen for cannery	2	3
Precious Corals	C	All species combined	Har- vest confidential	0	manned submersible/ remote operated vessel	FMP area (Makapuu bed and Exploratory Area of EEZ around HI)	shaped/ polished	1	0

WPFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2002	Recreational 2002	Other 2002
3	3	2

^a Includes recreational & commercial domestic bottomfish landings data from Guam & American Samoa, and only commercial domestic landings data from Hawaii & Northern Mariana Islands.

^b Main & Northwestern Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery

^c Includes recreational & commercial domestic pelagic landings data, where available (e.g., Hawaii, only commercial landings). Foreign transshipment or domestic cannery pelagic landings are not included in data.

^d Includes Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands recreational & commercial pelagic trollers/handliners; Hawaii and A.Samoa longliners, Hawaii pole-and-line vessels.

(SECRETARIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION)
A-ix HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES (HMS)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	TYPE	SPECIES/ SPECIES GROUP	LANDINGS 2001 MT = METRIC TONS WW = WHOLE WEIGHT DW = DRESSED WEIGHT	VESSELS (PERMITS) (2001 UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE)	GEAR	FISHING AREAS/SEASONS ^{3,13}	PROCESSING	2002 REPRESENTATIVES ¹⁰				
								COMMERCI	RECREATIONA	ACADEMIA/ENVI	FMCs	IAC
Atlantic Billfishes ¹	R	White Marlin; Blue Marlin; Sailfish Longbill Spearfish	50 mt ww ⁶ (comm dead discards)	Charter permits ¹² Recreational permit ¹⁴ Longbill spearfish prohibited	Rod & reel (directed); Longline (incidental)	Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea; Year-round	Sale prohibited	2	4	2	5	1
			81 mt ww ⁶ (rec)									
Atlantic Sharks ²	X	Commercial/Recreational -Large coastal (11 spp) -Pelagics (5 spp) -Small coastal (4 spp) -Prohibited (19 spp) -Deepwater/Other (33 spp)	Comm ⁵ 2,107 mt dw 1,616 LCS 165 Pel 326 SCS	LIMITED ACCESS ¹¹ Commercial permits 251 directed permits 376 incidental permits	Longline; Gillnets; Rod & reel	Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea; Year-round with two semi-annual seasons: 1/1- 6/30; 7/1-12/31	Fins exported; Carcasses/ cartilage to U.S. market	2	2	2	5	1
			Rec ^{4,5} 318,179 124,845 LCS 3,832 Pel 189,502 SCS	Charter permits ¹² Recreational permit ¹⁴	Rod & reel		Sale Prohibited					
Atlantic Swordfish ²	C	Commercial	2,567 mt ww ⁶ (includes discards)	LIMITED ACCESS ¹¹ Commercial permits 205 directed permits 110 incidental permits 94 handgear permits	Handline;Harpoon; Longline; Rod & reel; Driftnet banned ⁷ ; Otter trawl (incidental)	North and South Atlantic Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico; Year-round. North Atlantic directed semi- annual seasons: 6/1-11/30; 12/1- 5/31	Fresh/frozen U.S. market	3	1	2	5	1
		Recreational	1.5 mt ww ⁶	Charter permits ¹² Recreational permit ¹⁴	Rod & reel only	Year-round (East Coast of US)	Sale prohibited					
Atlantic Tunas ^{2,8}	X	Commercial Bluefin Yellowfin Bigeye Albacore Skipjack	3,804 mt ww ⁶ 345 2,518 718 202 21	9,526 (1998) 9,760 (1999) 9,813 (2000) 9,984 (2001)	Rod & reel; Purse seine; Bandit gear; Longline; Handline; Harpoon Pound nets; Weirs; Driftnet ban ⁹	Maine to Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean; Year-round 6/1-5/31	Bluefin: fresh foreign and U.S. market. Other tunas: fresh/canned foreign and U.S. market	4	4	2	5	1
		Recreational Bluefin Yellowfin Bigeye Albacore Skipjack	5,967 mt ww ⁶ 1,244 4,185 366 122 49	10,668 (1998) 13,147 (1999) 15,032 (2000) 13,263 (2001)	Rod & reel; Handline		Sale prohibited					

1. Amendment One to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Atlantic Billfish published April, 1999.	9. Driftnets in tuna fisheries prohibited effective July 1, 1999 (64 FR 29090, May 28, 1999).
2. FMP for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Sharks published April, 1999.	10. HMS and Billfish Advisory Panels include representatives of commercial and recreational fishing groups, academic and environmental organizations, and one each from the U.S. ICCAT Advisory Committee, the states, and the New England, Mid-Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils.
3. Seasons may close when quota is reached.	11. Total number of permit holders in both the shark and swordfish limited access fisheries is 713, because of permits issued for both fisheries to same permit holder.
4. Number of fish (not mt)	12. Permits are required for Charter/Headboats in tuna, swordfish, shark, and billfish fisheries
5. Source: Cortes and Neer. 2002. Updated Catches of Sharks. SEFSC/NMFS SB-02-15.	13. Certain gear types may have restrictions, including time/area closures and gear modifications.
6. Source: 2002 U.S. National Report submitted to ICCAT.	14. Final rule for recreational permits for all HMS published December 18, 2002 (67 FR 77434).

7. Driftnets in swordfish fishery prohibited effective February 25, 1999. (64 FR 4055, January 27, 1999).	
8. Atlantic tunas include bluefin, yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack	

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FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2002	
								Comm.	Rec.
Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish	c	Bottomfish Seamount Groundfish	292 ^a	2,900 ^b	handline rod & reel	FMP areas (year round/except Hancock Seamount (closed until year 2004)	fresh fish market	2	1
Crustaceans	C	Spiny lobster, Slipper lobster	0 (NWHI Fishery closed 2000-2002)	15 federal limited entry NWHI permits	traps	NWHI & MHI/ NWHI: 7/1-12/31 MHI- 1/1-4/30 & 9/1-12/31 (NOTE: NWHI Fishery closed 2000-2002)	flash frozen and live market	1	1
Pelagics ²	c	Tunas Swordfish Other (inc. sharks) Blue marlin Mahimahi Other billfish Wahoo	10,358 230 732 669 622 509 560 see: footnote (c) below	Estimated 7,400 ^d	troll handline longline	FMP areas/ year round	fresh fish market Whole frozen for cannery	2	3
Precious Corals	C	All species combined	Har-vest confidential	0	manned submersible/ remote operated vessel	FMP area (Makapuu bed and Exploratory Area of EEZ around HI)	shaped/ polished	1	0

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Commercial 2002	Recreational 2002	Other 2002
3	3	2

^a Includes recreational & commercial domestic bottomfish landings data from Guam & American Samoa, and only commercial domestic landings data from Hawaii & Northern Mariana Islands.

^b Main & Northwestern Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery

^c Includes recreational & commercial domestic pelagic landings data, where available (e.g., Hawaii, only commercial landings). Foreign transshipment or domestic cannery pelagic landings are not included in data.

^d Includes Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands recreational & commercial pelagic trollers/handliners; Hawaii and A.Samoa longliners, Hawaii pole-and-line vessels.